

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 948.63

(e) If a producer, handler, or producers' cooperative marketing association is engaged in producing or handling potatoes in more than one area, or in more than one subdivision of an area, such producer, handler, or producers' cooperative marketing association shall elect the area or subdivision in which he may participate in designating nominees. In no event shall there be participation in more than one area or subdivision.

§ 948.57 Failure to nominate.

If nominations are not made pursuant to the provisions of § 948.56 by the date provided therein, the Secretary may, without regard to nominations, select members and alternates on the basis of the representation provided for in this part.

§ 948.58 Vacancies.

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the failure of any person selected as a member or as an alternate to qualify, or in the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of a member or alternate, a successor for his unexpired term may be selected by the Secretary from nominations made pursuant to § 948.56, from previously unselected nominees on the current nominee list, or from other eligible persons.

§ 948.59 Qualification.

Each person selected as a member or as an alternate shall qualify by promptly filing a written acceptance with the Secretary.

§ 948.60 Compensation and expenses.

(a) Members of each area committee and their alternates shall serve without salary, but may be compensated at a rate not in excess of \$10 per day while engaged on committee business, and may be reimbursed for necessary expenses actually incurred while so engaged. At the discretion of an area committee, alternates may be requested to attend any or all committee meetings and receive compensation and expenses therefor regardless of attendance by the respective members.

(b) The compensation and expenses of members and alternates of the Colorado Potato Committee shall be paid

by the respective area committee they represent.

(c) Such other expenses as may be incurred by the Colorado Potato Committee pursuant to a budget of expenses approved by the Secretary shall be allotted to, and paid by, one or more of the area committees, as may be specified in an order issued by the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of this subpart.

§ 948.61 Procedure.

(a) A majority of all members of a committee shall be necessary to constitute a quorum or to pass and motion or approve any committee action.

(b) Each committee may provide for the members thereof, including the alternate members when acting as members, to vote by mail, telegraph, telephone, or other means of communication, provided that any such vote cast orally shall be confirmed promptly in writing. If any assembled meeting is held all votes shall be cast in person.

§ 948.62 Powers.

Each committee shall have the following powers:

(a) To administer the provisions of this subpart as specified herein;

(b) To make rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of this subpart;

(c) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violation of the provisions of this part; and

(d) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to this part.

§ 948.63 Duties.

(a) Each committee shall:

(1) Meet and organize as soon as practical after the beginning of each term of office, select a chairman and such other officers' as may be necessary, select subcommittees and adopt such rules and procedures for the conduct of its business as it may deem advisable;

(2) Act as intermediary between the Secretary and any producer or handler;

(3) Appoint such employees, agents and representatives as it may deem necessary and determine the salaries and define the duties of each;

(4) Keep minutes, books, and records which clearly reflect all its acts and transactions. Such minutes, books and

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records shall be subject to examination at any time by the Secretary;

(5) Furnish promptly notices of meetings, copies of the minutes of each committee meeting, and such other reports or information as may be requested by the Secretary, including annual reports of each area committee's operations for the preceding marketing season or fiscal period;

(6) Make available to producers, and to other area committees and the Colorado Potato Committee the committee's voting record on recommended regulations and other matters of policy;

(7) Meet jointly with other area committees when requested to do so by the Colorado Potato Committee;

(8) Consult, cooperate, and exchange information with other area committees, with other marketing agreement committees and other agencies or individuals in connection with proper committee activities and objectives;

(9) Take any proper action necessary to carry out the provisions of this subpart; and

(10) Cause the books of the committee to be audited by a competent accountant at least once each fiscal period.

(b) The Colorado Potato Committee shall also:

(1) Supervise the regulation of shipments pursuant to the provisions of the general cull regulation in the absence of more restrictive regulations, and shall cooperate with any area committee in administering any regulation issued pursuant to this subpart;

(2) Make recommendations to the Secretary with respect to suspending or modifying the provisions of the general cull regulation;

(3) Make available to area committees its voting record on recommendations for modification of the cull regulation and other matters of policy;

(4) Submit to each area committee such available information as may be requested; and

(5) Call joint meetings of area committees on matters requiring consideration of statewide marketing policies when requested to do so by an area committee.

7 CFR Ch. IX (1-1-06 Edition)

EXPENSES AND ASSESSMENTS

§ 948.75 Expenses.

Each area committee is authorized to incur such expenses as the Secretary may find are reasonable and likely to be incurred during each fiscal period for its maintenance and functioning, and for purposes determined to be appropriate for administration of this part. Handlers shall share expenses upon the basis of a fiscal period. Each handler's share of such expenses shall be proportionate to the ratio between the total quantity of potatoes handled by him as the first handler thereof during a fiscal period and the total quantity of potatoes handled by all handlers as first handlers thereof during such fiscal period.

§ 948.76 Budget.

As soon as practicable after the beginning of each fiscal period and as may be necessary thereafter, each area committee shall prepare an estimated budget of income and expenditures necessary for its administration of this part. Each area committee may recommend a rate of assessment calculated to provide adequate funds to defray its proposed expenditures. Each area committee shall present such budget to the Secretary with an accompanying report showing the basis for its calculations.

§ 948.77 Assessments.

(a) The funds to cover each area committee's expenses shall be acquired by the levying of assessments upon handlers as provided in this subpart. Each handler who first handles potatoes under this part, shall pay assessments to his respective area committee upon demand, which assessments shall be in payment of such handler's pro rata share of the area committee's expenses.

(b) Assessments shall be levied upon handlers at rates established by the Secretary. Such rates may be established upon the basis of each area committee's budget, recommendations, and other available information. Such rates may be applied to specified containers used in the production area.

(c) At any time during, or subsequent to, a given fiscal period each area committee may recommend the approval of